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Client Reference: AF/JG/P9429US



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of: MICHAEL      Confirmation Number: 7708  
ALAN MILES

Application No.: 10/759,184

Group Art Unit: 2185

Filed: January 20, 2004

Examiner: Yu, Jae Un

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR WRITING SERVO FRAMES TO AND/OR  
VERIFYING AREAS OF A STORAGE MEDIUM

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendments  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 16, 2006, Applicant requests reconsideration of the patentability of the pending claims based on the following remarks.

With claims 1-14 withdrawn from consideration, claims 15-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Teo et al. (U.S. 2003/0002190; hereafter "Teo"). Applicant traverses the rejection because Teo fails to teach or suggest all the features recited in the rejected claims. For example, Teo fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention wherein the writing of fields of a servo frame are interleaved with the reading of fields of a servo frame so that the fields can be verified on-the-fly during the servo writing process, as recited in each of independent claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 27, 32, 38, 45, 48 and 51, and their respective dependent claims.

Applicant's interleaving and verification on-the-fly during the servo writing process saves significant time because it can be carried out during the servo track writing process with no additional processing time being required. This is discussed in for example paragraphs 0011 and 0031 of the present application as filed.

As discussed in paragraph 0127 of the present application, this concept of interleaving of reading and writing can be extended to the process of "certification" of the disk. Again, this saves significant time as it can be carried out during the servo track writing process and it is not necessary first to write the servo frames and then move the disk to a separate